HOWARD COLLEGE
LIBRARY

MINUTES

OF THE

Howard College Library

-Florence - Baptist-

ASSOCIATION,

Held with Liberty Church, Threet, Alabama,

AUGUST 3 AND 4, 1894.

W. S. BROWN,
MODERATOR.

H. C. GILBERT,
SEC'Y AND TREAS.

Will meet next year with Pleasant Valley Baptist Church near Centre Star, Friday before the First Sunday in August, 1895.

PRESS OF FLORENCE TIMES, FLORENCE, ALA.

Statistical Table 1893-94.

Name of Church.	No. last Report	Increased by			Decreased by			Present Membership	S. Schools		Contributions	
		Letters	Baptism	Restorat'n	Letter	Death	Erasure		Teachers and Officers	Pupils	Missions	Salaries & Expenses
Florence Baptist	51	19	14	00	4	00	2	78	6	75	$26 50	$509 67
Bluff Creek	37	1	9	3	1	00	2	47			1 70	
Pilgrim's Rest		2						8				
Brush Creek	24	2	2	0	0	0	0	28			65	
Pleasant Valley								18	5	40	1 00	
Liberty	63				1	1	0	60	6	50	8 35	125 00
Union Grove	55	1	0	1	2	1	11	43				
Berea	23							23				
Martindale	35							35				
Mount Moriah	38							38				

Note.—Mount Olive Church was dissolved.
Some churches had paid a part of their mission fund to the State Board before the Association met.

Ordained Ministers.

W. S. BROWN, Florence, Ala.
F. M. HUTCHINSON, Petty, Ala.
S. MUSE, Green Hill, Ala.
L. S. LEAVELL, Green Hill, Ala.
F. G. POSEY, Lexington, Ala.
B. F. WILSON, Covington, Ala.
W. J. N. WYLIE, Gravelly Sp'gsAla.
C. E. YATES, Florence, Ala.

MINUTES

OF THE

Florence - Baptist ASSOCIATION.

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 3, 1894.

This Association convened, as per appointment, and Rev. W. J. N. Wylie preached the introductory sermon from 1st Corinthians, III:11.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises by Rev. C. E. Yates. Luke XII 22–40.

Letters were read and delegates enrolled from the following churches:

Liberty—Robt. Austin, E. L. Austin, J. H. Haynes, Dr. S. O. Paulk and Wm. F. Threet.

Union Grove—B. G. Gray, Rev. T. S. Leavell, Cassander Urban, and Elzy Muse.

Florence—Rev. W. S. Brown, Rev. C. E. Yates, H. C. Gilbert, J. T. Ashcraft and Robert Perrin.

Brush Creek—Joe Wesson.

Bluff Creek—Rev. W. J. N. Wylie and J. W. Cannon.

Pleasant Valley—T. E. Jones and Rev. B. F. Wilson.

Note—Delegates to the Woman's M. & A. Society, Florence Baptist church: Mrs. W. S. Brown, and Mrs. J. T. Ashcraft.

The election of officers resulted in the retention of W. S. Brown as moderator, and on account of the absence of our former secretary, L. P. Fleming, H. C. Gilbert was elected secretary and treasurer.

Pilgrims Rest, a church lately organized by Rev. W. J. N. Wylie, was received into the Association, and their delegates, J. T. Haddock and Thos. Tant, invited to full fellowship with us.

Invitations to seats in the body were extended to Rev. A. E. Burns, representative of the Muscle Shoals Association, the Tuscumbia church and the Alabama Baptist and to A. W. Tate of Woodlawn church, Jefferson county.

C. E. Yates, W. S. Brown and J. H. Haynes were elected delegates to the next State convention, and Rev. W. S. Brown, with L. P. Fleming, alternate, to the next Southern Baptist convention.

The moderator appointed J. H. Haynes, J. T. Haddock and Robert Perrin on the finance committee.

The pastor and deacons of Liberty church, with the moderator, constitute the devotional committee for this session.

On motion, the following committee on obituaries was appointed: J. K. Wesson, Rev. T. S. Leavell and Rev. W. J. N. Wylie.

Rev. A. E. Burns was then allowed an opportunity to speak in behalf of the Alabama Baptist. He spoke well and with good effect. Brother A. W. Tate made an earnest appeal for Howard College and Judson Institute.

Committee on Obituraries reports as follows:

Since the last meeting of this body we find that four of our members have been removed by death. Among that number was Rev. Asa Muse, an old and faithful minister of the Gospel; also Brother C. W. Dowdy, Secretary of the Sunday School at this place. Respectfully submitted,

JOE WESSON, Chairman.

The remainder of the afternoon session was spent in the discussion of this report by Revs. Brown, Wylie, Yates and Brother Tant. It was a sweet and solemn hour. All hearts were full of sympathy, tenderness and love.

SATURDAY MORNING AUG. 4TH.

Devotional exercises by Rev. A. E. Burns—Psalm, XCI.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read by its chairman, Rev. C. E. Yates.

We fear that our churches are too lax in their course toward members who are known to be intemperate, and that thereby the church is brought into disrepute and the cause of Christ to an open shame. If our young men are not rescued from this evil great will be our loss and their fall. We must march in solid phalanx and meet the enemy. We are on the Lord's side in this contest and we shall reap if we faint not. The day will yet come when the saloons will be closed. We urge upon our churches to discipline all members who are known to make, sell or drink to excess intoxicating liquors.

C. E. YATES, Chairman.

A very enthusiastic discussion of this report by Brothers Ashcraft, Burns, Tate and Leavell followed.

On motion adjournad until 2:30 p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Devotional services by Rev. W. L. House, Psalm XIX.

A committee consisting of Rev. W. J. N. Wylie, J. H. Haynes and Rev. T. S. Leavell was appointed to select the next place of meeting and the preacher of the annual sermon.

The reports on Association, State, Home and Foreign Missions and Woman's Work were then read in order as named, and were discussed under the one head of missions, by Rev. A. E. Burns, H. C. Gilbert, J. T. Ashcraft, Revs. J. M. Moore and W. S. Brown. At the close of these talks a collection was taken for missions. Subscriptions were made by the churches.

REPORTS ON MISSIONS.

These reports were candid and forcible in their expressions of the great need of missionary work, and urgent in their appeals for aid. Brother C. S. W. Paulk, chairman State missions, well said: "If we are Missionary Baptists let us prove it by going down into our pockets and paying something for the extension of our church in this State." Rev. W. J. N. Wylie had organized one church, Pilgrims Rest, in this Association. Rev. W. S. Brown had held a seven days meeting with Brush Creek and with Liberty churches with good results. Also a meeting of one week each with Bluff Creek and Pleasant Valley churches. He has carried on weekly prayer meetings in East Florence with preaching there once a month and a revival service last month resulting in twenty-five conversions.

The associational missions committee recommended the giving of ($100) one hundred dollars by the churches, toward sustaining a missionary and colporteur within this Association It is confidently believed if the State Board will furnish ($300) three hundred dollars, we can raise the same amount by having said missionary preach monthly at two churches, receiving therefor two hundred dollars. This amount added to the one hundred dollars general fund, raised by the Association, will make the required three hundred dollars.

WOMAN'S MISSION AND AID SOCIETIES.

There are three of these within this Association, Florence, East Florence and Liberty. All of these societies have done a good work for the church. They have contributed to missions, to the support of the pastor, and to the payment of church debts. They have given medical attention, clothing, and food to the needy, and have enabled the unemployed to find work. This work is not only helpful to the church, but in furnishing an active field of labor for the sisters of the churches, it increases their love and zeal in the Master's cause. Every church can and should have a Womans Missionary and Aid Society. ROBERT PERRIN, Chairman.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5TH.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. M. Moore. Mark I:1-11.

Report of committee on Sunday schools was read by the secretary.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The Sunday school is recognized as the nursery of the church. A church without a

Sunday school cannot, in this day, perform its full mission. The children are just as precious in God's sight as the grown people. While they are young they should feed upon the precious truths of God's word.

No member of the church need say there is no way in which he can render good service to his master. No member of the church need think God will excuse him for neglecting this delightful means of growth to himself and of good to his fellow man.

Your committee would recommend the Southern Baptist Convention series of lesson papers. They are cheap in price and excellent in quality.

Respectfully submitted, H. C. GILBERT, Chairman.

The following members made short and impressive talks upon Sunday school work: A. W. Tate, J. T. Ashcraft, H. C. Gilbert.

Rev. A. E. Burns preached the first sermon from Matt. 4:19.

It was decided to hold the next association with Pleasant Valley church, near Centre Star, on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1895.

Rev. W. S. Brown was selected to deliver the annual sermon, with Rev. C. E. Yates alternate.

After a song and collection Rev. W. S. Brown preached from John 13:13 and Luke 6:46.

Association adjourned.

H. C. GILBERT, Secretary.

W. S. BROWN, Moderator.

PLEDGES FOR NEXT YEAR.

Pilgrim's Rest	$ 2 00.	Elzy Muse	$1 00.
Florence	25 00.	Brush Creek	1 00.
Bluff Creek	5 00.	Pleasant Valley	2 50.
Robt. Perrin	1 00.	H. C. Gilbert	1 00.
Miss Emma Paulk	1 00.	C. S. W. Paulk (if missionary comes)	5 00.
Robt. Sharp	1 00.		

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FINANCE REPORT.

Name of Church	Minutes	Missions
Bluff Creek	.50	$ 1.70
Brush Creek	.25	.65
Pilgrims Rest	.40	——
Liberty Church	2.00	5.00
Union Grove	.45	——
Florence	5.00	26.50
C. S. W. Paulk	25	2.00
T. E. Jones		1.00
Pleasant Valley	35	
Totals	$9.20	$36.85

J. H. HAYNES, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received from Finance Committee for Missions '93-94		$36.85
For Minutes		9.20
For Missions for '94-95		9 65
Paid State Board for Missions by Florence Baptist Church	$26.50	
Paid for Minutes	9.20	
Cash on hand for Missions '93-4	10 35	
Cash on hand for Missions '94-5	9.65	
Totals	$55.70	$55.70

H. C. GILBERT, Treasurer.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call to order.
2. Devotional exercises.
3. Reading of Church letters.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Admission of New Churches.
6. Receiving visitors and correspondents.
7. Annual sermon.
8. Appointment of the following Committees, (others if necessary):—a. Devotional. b. Finance.
9. Reading the Rules of Order.
10. Reports of Standing and other Committees:—(a) Obituaries; (b) Temperance; (c) Missions—Associational, State, Home, Foreign; (d) Sunday School; (e) Woman's Work; (f) Executive; (g) Finance Committee.
11. Treasurer's Report.
12. Selection, time and place of next meeting.
13. Election of Delegates to State and Southern Baptist Conventions.
14. Appointment of Corresponding Delegates.
15. Election of Preacher to deliver next Annual Sermon.
16. Resolutions of courtesy and Miscellaneous Business.
17. Adjournment.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

HOME MISSIONS—C. E. Yates, J. H. Haynes, Thos. Tant.

FOREIGN MISSIONS—J. T. Ashcraft, T. S. Leavell, Cassanda Urban.

WOMAN'S WORK—Mrs. J. T. Ashcraft, Mrs. Roach. Mrs. W. S. Brown.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—W. S. Brown, J. T. Ashcraft, W. J. N. Wylie, J. T. Haddock, H. C. Gilbert, Joe Wesson, J. H. Haynes, Elzy Muse.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—S. O. Paulk, J. T Ashcraft, B. G. Gray.

TEMPERANCE—Robt. Perrin, Robt. Austin, Joe Wesson.

OBITUARIES—W. J. N. Wylie, E. L. Austin, Elzy Muse.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS—T. E. Jones, C. E. Yates, B. F. Wilson.

STATE MISSIONS—H. C. Gilbert, J. W. Cannon, Wm. F. Threet.